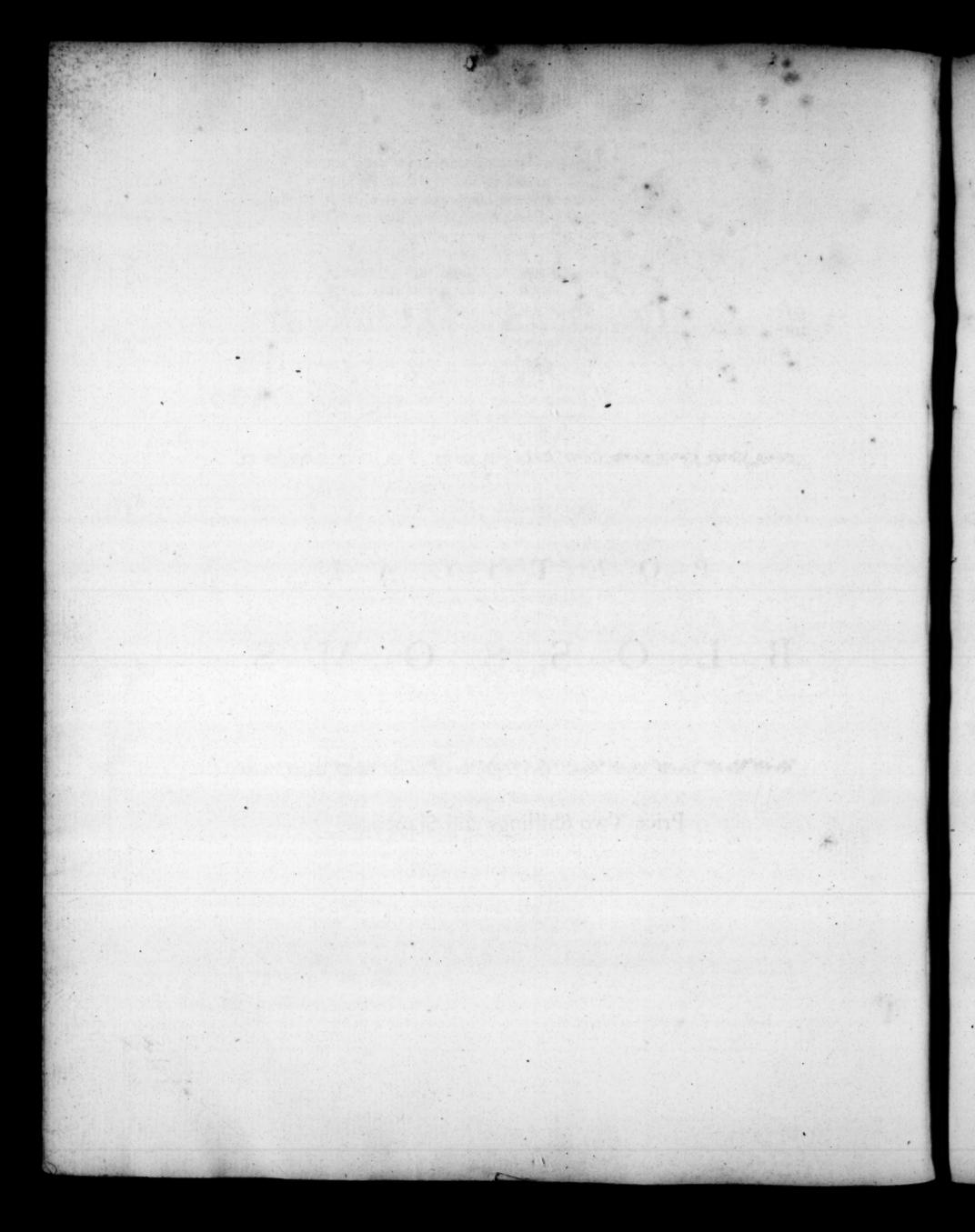


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BLOSSOMS;

OR, A COLLECTION OF

POEMS, ODES,

and TRANSLATIONS.

BY

A YOUNG GENTLEMAN

Of the ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, GUILDFORD.

More modoque,
Grata carpentis thyma per laborem
Plurimum, circa nemus, uvidique
Tiburis ripas, operofa parvus
Carmina fingo.

Hor.

GUILDFORD:

Printed for the A U T H O R,

And fold by HAWES, CLARKE and COLLINS, PATER-NOSTER-ROW, LONDON, Mr. FLETCHER, and Mr. PRINCE, OXFORD, J. RUSSELL, Guildford, and by all Booksellers in Town and Country, M.DCC.LXXII.

The second of th production care and the contraction of the contract Stray Aurejo post med Tongs THE COUNTY OF THE A O TO THE WORLD TO LONG THE LC hard I me special control of the control of 128 and 2.1.

To the RIGHT HONORABLE

ter adipited to their plants de la lieu

GEORGE ONSLOW, Efq;

MEMBER of PARLIAMENT for the County of

SURREY,

One of the LORDS of the TREASURY,

ANDOF

HIS MAJESTY's most honorable privy-council.

S 1 R,

HE following rude and unpolished lines are submissively offered to your perusal, in hopes that they will receive a favorable indulgence from you, as the first fruits of an infant muse. If these Blossoms are

fo

fo fortunate as to meet with your approbation, they shall defy the nipping frost of criticism, and arrive in time at maturity. I am, with the sincerest respect, and most grateful acknowledgment,

SIR,

Your most obliged,

and most devoted

Guildford, Surrey, October the 7th, 1772.

humble servant,

Richard Valpy.

THE

PREFACE.

TATURE has implanted in us a kind of ambition, which, fometimes affifted by the importunities of friends, as foon as our thoughts are enlarged from the bounds of the mind, suggests to us a most prevailing inclination of ushering them into the world, tho' they are not always decorated with the most engaging dress. Some critics, I make no doubt, will immediately cenfure me in the feverest terms for having obeyed the dictates of this inclination, alledging, that I ought to have kept to myself these productions, which, after some years had elapsed, I should think unworthy of the press, as far unequal to works of more perfection. To these I answer, in the words of a celebrated Poet, that it is an envious frost which nips the blossoms in their bud, and that it is a ridiculous absurdity to despise the moon and the stars, because the sun shines brighter.

Works

Works of this kind are generally soon buried in oblivion; and I must be very partial to myself and conceited to expect a better sate than others whose blossoms were perhaps more approaching to maturity: however in this I comfort myself:

" Me vivo, moriere, liber, fortasse: quid inde?

"Sæpe senem moritur filius antè patrem.

"Seu moriare igitur vivo me, sive superstes

" Sis mihi; mortalem me genuisse scio."

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P L When C does the Worth, or whomee the more fring.

A POEM.

Beatum fine Virtute neminem effe poffe --- damus. CICERO.

But lent by beav'n upon bard usury,
For while Jove holds us out the howl of joy,
Ere it can reach our lips, 'tis dash'd with gall,
By some left-handed God. — DRYDEN'S OEDIPUS.

ho' now I destrict as an empty dreams.

So dearly lov'd, so fondly songhit by all ?

Which, inca bubble, mingles with the

OME, heav'nly Muse, thy vot'ry's mind inspire With kindly sparks of true poetic fire!

Come, bright Apollo, born of race divine,
Direct my fancy, savor my design,
And fire my breast with thy celestial beam!

I now first plunge in Aganippe's stream;

Young, unexperienc'd, I explore the plains
Of Helicon, in yet untutor'd strains.

B

Of

Of Pleasure first I sing, a pleasing theme, Tho' now I treat it as an empty dream.

What art thou, Pleasure, thou mysterious thing?
Whence does thy worth, or whence thy merit spring,
So dearly lov'd, so fondly sought by all? --An airy phantom, or an empty ball,
Which, like a bubble, mingles with the air:
A gilded poison of appearance fair,
Which tasted, brings inevitable pain
Destructive, o'er each nerve, and glowing vein,
'Till death dissolving ends the mortal frame,
And leaves behind the register of shame.

Who feeks the flow'rs of Pleasure on the ground,
Beneath will find the hidden serpent's wound.

As, when the angler sets the secret bait,
Th'exulting fishes see the varnish'd cheat,
Eager they press to catch th'alluring prize,
But ah! the first that takes it, tortur'd dies.

So what we take for Pleasure or for gain, Is torment, grief, anxiety, and pain.

How chang'd, oh Pleasure, since that happy time, When innocence and truth were in their prime; When happiness and Pleasure, hand in hand, Auspicious strove to bless each grateful land! But now far other scenes my fight employ, Than those of Pleasure, innocence, and joy. Oh! now abandon'd flate of loft mankind! Whose vows are air, whose gratitude is wind. Let me not dwell on this detefted theme, Or I shall perish in the guilt-foul'd stream : ---But now kind Muse, proceed! the crime relate That could provoke th'avenging hand of fate Severe to punish man's offensive flame, And leave us only Pleafure's empty name. Has dire revenge Jove's mind serene possest? Could indignation swell his peaceful breast?

In days of yore, the Thund'rer from above, With pity mov'd and sympathizing love To man's obedient race, with lib'ral hand Show'r'd various bleffings on each happy land Mankind's tumultuous passions leagu'd in vain, Far from their hearts he bound in a coercive chain: With real happiness he sooth'd each breast, And man his wish, as soon as form'd, possest, The bounteous father willing to controul Each care deep rooted in the lab'ring foul, Call'd Pleasure forth from the exalted feat, Where, 'midst the Gods, she held her fix'd retreat, Approach, faid he, thou ever-blooming maid, In purest garb of innocence array'd: Call forth thy steeds, on swiftest pinions fly, And quick as fancy, cleave the yielding fky: Commission'd hence to man's beloved race, Thou shalt complete my unexampled grace. Henceforth shalt thou with man eternal dwell, In the gilt roof, as in the lowly cell.

Hence! to the world my gracious bleffing bear, And shew mankind their safety is my care.

The Goddess bow'd obsequious and retir'd
The God's behest her willing mind inspir'd.
Quickly she slew, drawn in her silver car,
Sublimely born along the ambient air.
Mankind beheld her rushing from the skies,
With reverential fear, and dazzled eyes:
But when they knew that heav'nly guest was come
To add fresh lustre to their blissful home,
With floods resistless of delight possess,
Promiscuous joy and wonder fill'd their breast.

As when the smiling spring, in sweet array,

First warms the air, and crowns th' encreasing day;

When trees are with a verdant soliage crown'd,

And rising flowers variegate the ground.

The conscious shepherds, with melodious strains,

Delighted gambol o'er th' enamel'd plains;

The

The lambkins skip, the birds harmonious sing,
The whole creation smiles in the returning spring.
Thus men enchanted with the glorious prize,
With peals of acclamation pierc'd the skies.
From morn 'till noon, from noon 'till night's dark shade,
Man still was happy with the joy-born maid:
And when the stars shed forth their glimm'ring beams,
Pleasure attended still man's airy dreams.
With heav'n-descended Pleasure's sweets posses,
Each thought himself a God supremely bless.

But soon forgetting whence their bliss arose,
That fertile source from which all blessing flows,
Deluded mortals wak'd the wrath divine,
Forsaking Virtue, and the Thund'rer's shrine.
Whilst Pleasure's altars reek'd with sacrifice,
And frequent clouds of smoke involv'd the skies,
No vows were offer'd in the hallow'd grove,
No victim to repay the benefits of Jove;

[7]

Who, from his throne, beheld with wild surprize, Himself neglected, Pleasure's glories rise:
Sudden with grief and boiling rage opprest
Tumultuous sury lab'ring in his breast,

- " Is't thus, faid he, ungrateful men repay
- " My boundless favor? They no more obey
- " My dread decrees, but by a guilty flame,
- " Destroy my altars, and despise my name.
- 4 And shall I bear it, lay my trophies down
- " Like a fond wretch, and tamely yield my crown? ---
- " Perish that thought ! no rather all the world,
- " Far from its basis in confusion hurl'd,
- " Shall in an undiftinguish'd ruin fall,
- " And an eternal chaos cover all!
- "But man extinguish'd, my revenge must cease,
- " And justice lessen in the world's decrease.
- "Then let man live, expos'd to endless strife,
- "Living, despair; despairing, curse his life."

He faid, and call'd to realms of heav'nly light Pleasure, for ever banish'd from our sight! And in her stead, to check the guilty slame, Sent Pain on earth, array'd in Pleasure's name; Who uncontroul'd rules with resistes sway, Whose laws austere deluded men obey. At her right hand Ambition dire resides, Who every step of daring mortals guides, And Plutus spreads his treasures 'gainst her throne Aspiring to command unbounded and alone; While the soft God of Love securely reigns, And deals at pleasure his alluring chains.

Oh! empty hope of Honor, Love, or Gain, Whose gifts are air, whose promises are vain! These ev'n perform'd, still new desires arise, And change into a hell the fancied paradies.

The Man whose veins with thirst of Honor glow, Feels, with his glory, his ambition grow:

[9]

Tho' ev'ry thing conspire t'encrease our store, Yet 'tis our Plenty makes us wish for more: And he who's favor'd by the God of Love, Blest in his slame, will still unhappy prove.

O! let misfortune, man, unclose thy eyes!

Pleasure from thee is fled into the skies,

Banish'd by Jove, 'till Virtue's sacred bloom,

Sprung in thy breast, recall the wandr'er home.

The SEASONS,

ANODE.

Ite procul, durum cure genus, ite labores.

TIBUL.

When loudly-bluft'ring winds arise
And hoarsely-hurtling sweep the skies;
When frozen billows cease to roar,
Fast-cleaving to the blasted shore;
Then from abroad, my friend, retire,
And jovial croud the high-pil'd fire:
Your chilling soul with goblets cheer
Of rosy wine, or frothy beer,

Or drive the tedious time away
With blissful sport, and harmless play.
Let no vain cares torment your breast;
But drink, and leave to heav'n the rest.
For soon th' auspicious pow'r above
The gloomy prospect will remove:
'Tis he, whose nod imperious binds
The fury of the raging winds:
At his command the storms arise,
He speaks --- again the tempest dies,
Unrussled slows the limpid slood,
Unshaken stands the leasy wood.

When Spring descends in teemful show'rs,
To paint the fields with blooming flow'rs;
When birds renew their chirping lays
Perch'd on the green prolific sprays,
Then joys more pleasing you will prove,
The joys of blis-imparting love:

Then o'er the turf-invested plains,
With sportful nymphs, and tripping swains,
Incited by the sounding lyre,
You'll lead the joy-enraptur'd choir:

When Summer, veil'd in tepid gales,
Advancing, o'er the Spring prevails;
When shepherds drive their fainting slocks
Beneath the rugged rough-bent rocks;
When Phœbus darts his sultry beams,
Then plunge amidst the cooling streams;
'Till rising brisk, alert and gay,
You bound to tusted groves away,
Where, on soft beds of roses laid,
Beneath an oak's extended shade,
Shelter'd from Phœbus' burning rays
You meditate your sylvan lays.
And while the gently-cooling breeze
Soft whispers thro' the gloomy trees,

You mark the daify-border'd rills,
The mazy vales, the wood-crown'd hills,
And all the beauties of the grove,
Unbounded scene of joy and love!
Happy, if with some lovely fair
You can these rural pleasures share:
Content shall crown the circling hours
And ev'ry love-sprung bliss be yours.

When Ceres scatt'ring gifts around,
And Bacchus with perfection crown'd,
Auspicious pair! conjoin'd appear,
Eager to bless th'Autumnal year,
Inviting the laborious swains
To reap rich blessings from the plains;
As soon as the shrill-sounding horn
Proclaims the rosy-singer'd morn,
Rouse all the eager hunting crew,
Thro' hills and dales the chace pursue,

Seeking the branching stag to rear With rapid steeds and pointed spear, While the fwift hounds their courses take, And bleeding tear the spiny brake, 'Till the proud beaft tir'd heaves for breath, And pants and dreads devouring death. Then when the fun declining bends, And night her shady veil extends, When huntsmen, spent with toil and heat, From the long-beaten plain retreat: Let copious bowls of luscious wine New-press'd each grosser sense refine. Or, where the vines their tendrils shoot, Crop the profuse inviting fruit: And while you drain fair Autumn's store, Grateful refound Pomona's pow'r; 'Till Winter's hoary blafts again Invert the year and 'whelm the Plain.

As round the fun the planets roll,
And shine alternate on the pole;
Thus each revolving season's found
With various beauties mutual crown'd.
The Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring
Unnumber'd joys alternate bring.
On pleasures still new pleasures roll
And charm each guilt-untainted soul.

While free my friend, from baneful strife,
You lead a peaceful rural life,
Avoid the cares which honors bring,
And scorn ambition's foaring wing.
In calm content serenely great,
Laugh at the gaudy pomps of state.
Resign'd to heav'ns auspicious pow'r,
Enjoy the present golden hour,
Think often grateful on the past,
And neither wish nor dread the last.

IMITATIONS

O F

HORACE.

S P R I N G.

R I M Winter's scene is now withdrawn,
And beauteous Spring begins to dawn.
The ships are launch'd into the main;
And nature decks her form again.
The fire no more delights the swain;
But slocks bound o'er th'enamel'd plain.
The birds frequent the verdant groves;
And beasts renew their genial loves.
Phæbus, return'd, his instuence yields,
To cheer the glebe, and paint the fields.

Now whilft the filver lamp of night O'er earth displays her facred light, Bright Venus thro' the blooming meads With nymphs her mystic dances leads; Their joyful gambols o'er the green Adorn the vernal, lively scene; Whilst the gay-sportive God of love, And modest Graces, round her move; And jovial Faunes and Satyrs bound With steps alternate o'er the ground. Where, in the caverns deep below, The roaring flames of Ætna glow, Vulcan the toilsome forge inspires With ecchoing blows, and hissing fires; And Cyclops in that dark abode New thunder haften for their God. ---With myrtle deck'd, 'midst fragrant bow'rs, We'll crown our heads with rifing flow'rs, To pleasure we'll our souls resign, And drown our cares in gen'rous wine.

Then shall a grateful sacrifice
In curling sumes ascend the skies,
Offer'd to all the sylvan pow'rs,
In their ambrosial sacred bow'rs. --Short bounds of life are set to man;
'Tis mirth alone must stretch our span:
Then, Sextius, live e'er 'tis too late;
For soon, my friend, impartial sate
Perhaps will strike the mortal blow,
And snatch thee to the realms below;
Where once arriv'd, no sprightly bowl
Shall crown thy joy-exalted soul;
No more shalt thou the fair admire
With blissful love, or soft desire.

TO THE

REPUBLIC.

Into the tumultuous main!

See, frail bark, what danger's near!

Haft thou nothing now to fear?

With fatigues and ftorms oppreft,

Reach the port and feek for reft.

Seeft thou not thy shatter'd fide

Is with oars no more supplied,

See, thy leaky prow is toft,

All thy ropes, thy yards are loft;

Nor can thy weak keel sustain

All the fury of the main.

Bluft'ring

Bluft'ring winds contending roar, Rolling billows to the shore. Thy remaining fails are torn, And by waves are overborn. Ev'n the crew with ruthless rage Cruel war intestine wage. Thou invok'st thy Gods in vain To appeale the raging main. Tho' thou art of race divine, Tho' thou'rt built with Pontic pine, Yet the Pilot's tim'rous brow Will not trust thy painted prow: O beware, lest tempests sweep Thy gay figures to the deep! Thou, who lately wast my fear Now my fond defire and care, Watchful still shun rocky lands, Rifing ifles and shelvy fands.

[41]

IMITATIONS

gairft leden de co egazés E

OF

ANACREON.

L O V E.

A VAUNT, vain Cupid! hoarse alarms, High-waving swords, and rattling arms Shall now employ my daring lyre, And each far-sounding string inspire.

I'll tell of Sparta's warlike king:
Achilles' matchless deeds I'll sing,
Whose soul enrag'd with martial fire
Encounter'd death --- but ah! my lyre
No more heroic notes will prove,
But, dumb to war, re'echoes love.

In

G

In vain I change each rebel string,
The soldier's noble feats to sing:
In vain I toil, in vain I try,
My strings will naught but love reply.
Then farewell, heroes! love-sprung fire
Inslames my soul, and tunes my lyre.
I'll now no more of battles dream;
But love shall be my darling theme

BEAUTY.

ATURE, providently kind,
Arm'd with speed the trembling hind;
Lions with tremendous claws,
Chasms of teeth and knotty paws;
Fins to scaly fish she gave,
Sporting in the chrystal wave;
To the warbling feather'd race
Wings to cleave th'aerial space;
Guardian horns the bulls protend;
Pointed stings the bees defend:
Man's for wit and art renown'd,
With celestial wisdom crown'd.
Nature's gifts I see assign'd:
What remains for womankind?

What has tender woman shar'd?

Beauty, surest, safest guard. --
Beauty's influence all must feel,

Tho' array'd in shielding steel,

Beauty's charms resistless prove;

All must yield to conqu'ring love,

LOVE'S TREACHERY.

Urfa display'd her paler light;
An awful silence reign'd around,
And each was sunk in sleep profound.
When Love, by partial fate design'd
The foe, the tyrant of mankind,
Came forth in quest of prey to roam,
And slew around my peaceful home.
Long had he view'd with secret pain
My stubborn bosom's cold distain;
His crafty snares and fatal art
Had no ascendant o'er my heart.
Now stung with rage and envious hate,
The spiteful boy rapp'd at my gate.

H

When

When, flumb'ring undifturb'd with cares, "Who's there, cry'd I, that boldly dares "With clam'rous noise disturb my rest?" Love thus reply'd: "With toils opprest " A helpless boy defires to dwell "This night within thy happy cell, "Who long hast stray'd thro' dreary plains, " 'Midst roaring winds and show'ry rains. " I pitying heard his wretched fate, Then struck a light and op'd the gate. Straight I beheld a blooming child, With wings and arms, of aspect mild. A fire I made with crackling wood, And cheerfully around we stood; His chilling hands, with friendly care, With mine I warm'd, and dry'd his hair. But when the cold was driv'n away, " Let us, faid Cupid, now furvey " My moisten'd arms: I fain would know

" Whether the rain has hurt my bow."

He faid, and chose his sharpest dart,
Which --- too well guided! --- pierc'd my heart.
Then parting cry'd, with scoffing voice:
"Dear landlord, with me now rejoice;
"My bow is safe, sound was my dart,
"But soon, I ween, your breast will smart."
From that curst time I strive in vain
To free my heart from Cupid's chain.
Th' insection's spread o'er ev'ry part--A raging fire has seiz'd my heart.

[28]

He faid, and chok his fharpest durt.
Which --- too well guided ! --- piere'd my heart.

Dear landlord, with me now rejoice;

" My bow is fafe, found was my darr, " But foon, I ween, your breath will fmart

The trees earth's dewy moisture drain and the fiery fun drinks up the sea:

And when his drunken journey's done,

The moon reslective drinks the sun.

Then, moralyzers, tell me why,

Since all things tipple, should not I?

THE

G R O V E.

Courts us t'enjoy it's filken shade.

Enchanting gloom! secure retreat!

Of love and pleasure smiling seat!

See, how the sweetly-fanning breeze

Blows gently thro' the mur'mring trees!

While the sweet warblers of the spring

From bush to bush melodious sing.

The silver streams soft-bubbling flow.

And mingle with the flood below.

O Sylvia, can you view this grove.

And onward still unmindful move.

LOVE WOUNDED.

A S Cupid once 'midst verdant bow'rs
Was plucking sweetly-od'rous flow'rs,
A bee, that on the roses hung
Sleeping unseen, his singer stung.
His ruby cheeks with tears o'erslow'd,
His little hand with anguish glow'd:
Then swiftly slying o'er the green,
Lamenting thus to Love's fair queen:
"Mama," said he, "I die with pain!
"A winged serpent on the plain
"That's by the shepherds call'd a bee,
"From pity or discernment free,

" Has stung me. oh! some balm apply;

"Or foon, mama, you'll fee me die."

Pleas'd with his fmart, the Goddess smil'd,

" Let this," faid she, "instruct thee, child:

"What if an infects harmless wound

" Unman thy strength, thy foul confound,

"Think what they feel, whose hapless hearts

.. Are stung with thy deep-wounding darts...

GOLD,

Love will ever painful prove;

But the most distracting pain

Is to love, and love in vain. --
Ev'ry virtue, ev'ry good,

Sparkling wit and noble blood

Are with scornful Cupid vain;

Gold alone can beauty gain.

Hell! thy massive bars unfold;

'Whelm the wretch who first us'd gold.

Curses round his manes rove,

Who with gold first purchas'd love!

moold arise and a when a when the bound of the bloom,

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the bleft retreat of peace are for-

Transcendent fore have fixed then in

No reedles o'ce danabe d'est thades.

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Gold begets fraternal hate,

Parents' curse and stern debate;

Gold can friendship's bands remove,

Gold destroys all filial love;

Gold's the cause of dire alarms,

Murders and destructive arms. --
Would it's evils ended there!

Gold makes even love despair.

Wirnin there fallery glades

Gold begets fraternal hare,

Parents' curfe and ftern debate;

Gold's the caule of dire staring,

Mardens and dolf hear when M

ANACREONTICS.

SOLITUDE.

BENEATH these boughs, where jess'mins bloom,
This day, my Sylvia, let us rove.

Nature has form'd this shady gloom
The blest retreat of peace and love.

Within these solitary glades

Transcendent joys have fix'd their seat:

No medler e'er disturbs these shades,

But warblers cautious and discreet.

Fast to its flow'r-enamel'd sides

This bubb'ling riv'let seems to cleave;

And winding slow, reluctant glides,

This grove romantic loth to leave.

Flora carefs'd by Zephyrs bland
Scatters ambrofial fweets around,
And blooming flow'rs, at her command,
Diversify the teeming ground.

Here Cupid reigns with boundless sway:

These verdant turs are only trod

By those who on the bark display

The trophies of th'all conqu'ring God.

All things conspire to sooth thy mind:

Myriads of Graces round thee move.

And could'st thou, Sylvia, be unkind,

Deaf to the call of blissful love?

Full to us flow r-enamel'd fides

I his bubb ling my let feems to clear

this grove romance loth to he

LOVE AWAKED.

A LONG a folitary glade

As once I chanc'd to stray,

Beneath an oak's romantic shade,

An infant sleeping lay.

As I approach'd, his matchless charms

Attracted my regard:

His little wings and shining arms

The God of love declar'd.

He had Lucinda's ev'ry grace,

Lucinda, false, unkind!

Whose graceful form and lovely face

Ere while inflam'd my mind.

But now the object of her scorn,

Falshood and causeless spite,

With constant vows I'd often sworn

To shun her hated sight.

Now recollection from my breaft

Drew forth a fudden scream,

Which interrupted Cupid's rest,

And broke his gentle dream.

Enrag'd, his fatal bow he drew,
And chose his sharpest dart,
Which with a force elastic slew,
And deeply pierc'd my heart.

"Thy wound," faid he, "from rashness springs;
"Resume Lucinda's love."

This said, he spread his silken wings,

And slying left the grove.

THE

TREASURE.

Tempting the danger of precarious gain?

Since I may here, undanger'd and at eafe,

View the rich product of the lands and feas.

Why should I fea-girt Tyre for purple feek?

Since I can find it in my Sylvia's cheek.

Or fearch for pearls the western deeps? there lies

More brightness far in her enchanting eyes.

Or feek persumes beyond the parching line?

When Sylvia breathes ambrosial sweets divine.

For iv'ry ransack Afric's burning sands?

Since iv'ry sparkles in her snowy hands.

But all the virtues that adorn mankind

Direct her thoughts, and influence her mind.

Then

Then would you see the blooming pow'rs of sense With beauty meet, and godlike excellence, Search not the boundless world, but hither move, And view the pattern of eternal love.

EPIGRAM ON READING TRAPP'S VIRGIL.

Mourn the hardships which Æneas bore,
Before he reach'd Italia's fertile shore.

Was't not enough to see his friends expire,
And frame his way thro' flaming floods of fire;

To be, in summer's heat, and winter's frost,
From clime to clime, o'er raging billows tost?

But why must he, ye Gods! for all his pains,
Rewarded be with Trapp's reviling strains?

EPIGRAM

E P I G R A M

ON

Sir JOHN FALSTAFF.

Poets and jovial topers still proclaim,
That base imposter, whose sack-heated brain
Could crack a joke, and shun th'embattled plain,
Seeing bold Percy's coarse stretch'd on the ground,
All mangled, torn, and one continued wound,
The royal Harry railing thus address:

- " I faw the Scots with pond'rous arms opprest;
- "Despairing they their flying arrows hurl'd,
- " As if they meant to terrify the world.
- " Happy, that I could thus the battle fee,
- " Escaping death, and from all danger free.
- "Twas thou alone couldst conquer Percy's rage;
- "But now he's dead, the hero I'll engage."

TOTAN

THE

THE

TIMES.

On a lov'd brother, or a bosom friend,

How weak thy hope! how wretched is thy aim!

They but delude thee, mask'd with friendship's name;

Fawning they flatter, and dissemble love,

But int'rest is the goal to which they move.

Sincerity is fled, and vice alone

Usurps her empire, and ascends her throne.

Whate'er should flow from innocence of heart

Springs from deceit, from subtlety and art.

M

The

Conferent son state states a regular of

seed Loosed attalking swar

dyr og kare bils å flav mi mil

Familiay they dare a send a Bestele a

The man, whose looks display alluring smiles, Yet in his bosom bears persidious wiles, Securely cheats the virtuous and the wise, Quite unsuspected, rapt in deep disguise; His acts uncensur'd, and secure his same, He bids desiance to remorse and shame.

ON THE

ASSIZES.

Held at GUILDFORD, in the Year 1772,

BEFORE

WILLIAM LORD MANSFIELD,

AND

Sir SYDNEY STAFFORD SMYTHE, Knt.

W HY heaves my panting breast with murm'ring fighs?

And whence those drops that trickle from my eyes? They are the tears that from soft pity flow, Which rends my heart with sympathizing woe. Behold! stretch'd on the rough unfriendly stone, Heart-piercing sight! unhappy wretches groan Dreading their final doom: their rattling chains Still add new horror to their heart-felt pains.

While

While with impatience their relations wait
The word decifive of their dubious fate;
See, on the bench, array'd in pompous state,
Sits the stern Judge, majestically great;
Whose ev'ry sentence strikes the tender heart,
And bids the tears from each beholder start!

But ah! a gen'ral stillness now has spread

It's downy wings on each attentive head.

He speaks! the dreadful sentence now is past;

Some guilty wretches soon shall breathe their last.

Whilst others, doom'd to leave their native shore,

Their friends, their all --- perhaps to meet no more!

Condemn'd to rot in a barbarian soil,

O'erwhelm'd with pain, and faint with rig'rous toil,

Reluctantly depart, and as they move,

Take a last sarewell of their hapless love.

What groans of death-devoted men, and cries Of screaming women rend the wond'ring skies! "Forgive, my Lord, spare, spare, oh! spare my life! " Restore me to my children and my wife. "Be merciful; and oh! in pity, fave " My hopes of youth from an untimely grave." Then in a ghaftly, fruitless forrow drown'd, They dash their heads against the flinty ground. They strike their breasts, and in extreme despair, Tear up the earth, and rend their briftling hair. Their cries and tears again promiscuous flow, And form a concord of distracting woe. What hard spectator can from tears refrain, And stand unfeeling sympathizing pain? Infenfible, harsh Justice! cannot all Reprieve the finner from the dreadful fall Into Eternity, --- that boundless space, Which fwift-wing'd time, with ever-flying pace Can never run? no: Justice clears the good,

Then

Severely merciful, but thirsts for guilty blood.

Then, Deeds, repine not at the just decree,
Which marks heav'ns vengeance on thy crime and thee:
Humbly submit; adore the wrath divine,
And think that pain was due to guilt like thine.

Avaunt ye wretches, whom the Judge above,

Nor dread of instant punishment can move!

Who, fraught with zeal in a flagitious cause,

Trample on virtue, and on broken laws:

Who to your passions still subservient prove,

And scorning Justice, indurated rove:

Who stand unmov'd, and cast a smile on death,

Seeing your tortur'd fellows yield their breath.

Audacious men, repent! the time will come,

When you shall tremble at your rig'rous doom.

More impious far, those who're by law decreed,

For heinous crimes, in mournful pomp, to bleed

And who, instead of penitential tear,

Break out in curse, and still to guilt adhere.

Or those who, hugging their fix'd fires within,
Only repent, because they cannot fin.
Can such guilt-burden'd think to meet their fate,
And dare the passage to a suture state?
Do they not see the gaping jaws of hell,
Where vengeful cares, and horrid torments dwell,
Ready to snatch them in eternal fire,
Deserving victims of th' Almighty's ire?

O thou, who in the heav'ns hast fix'd thy throne!
Thou pow'r immense, unbounded and alone!
Thou mighty monarch of the sea and land;
Who rul'st o'er all with absolute command!
Who know'st the deep recesses of my heart,
To me, to me, thy boundless grace impart!
O! let these sad examples warn my soul,
And each rebellious passion still controul!
But rather --- may thy unexampled love
Instame my heart, and turn my thoughts above!

O! teach me still in virtue's bounds to stay,

Nor from the paths of Justice ever stray:

That when, at once the wicked and the just
Rising distinguish'd from their kindred dust,

My conscious soul on wings expanded slies,

To meet her Judge at the last, dread Assize,

No spot, no unrepented sin be sound,

To rise in judgment, and her hopes consound;

But chrystal-clear, she may from troubles cease,

Dwell with the blessed saints, and rest in endless peace.

FINIS.

Who rai to er all with abloine commad!

Who know it the circle receiles of my heart,

Former, so me, the boundlets grace impact

And her many charmens but elsain seek tool.

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